(c) whether, in the above context, Government would hasten to introduce the Scheduled Tribes (Recognition of Forest Rights) Bill and vigorously implement the provision of Panchayat (Extention to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) A Multi-Stakeholder Partnership (MSP) framework for forestation of degraded lands has been envisaged to involve the land owning agency, the local village community and the sponsor who may be a company, firm, user group, trust, society or organisation in public or private sector. A draft framework has been prepared by Indian Institute of Forest Management in this regard.

(c) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has already introduced the Scheduled Tribes (Recognition of Forest Rights) Bill in the Lok Sabha on 13.12.2005. The Bill was referred to a Joint Committee of the Parliament for examination. The Joint Committee of Parliament has since presented its Report to the Lok Sabha on 23.5.2006, which was also laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on the same day.

The Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA) are to be implemented by the Central and State Governments. While all States have enacted requisite compliance legislations by amending the respective Panchayati Raj Acts, certain gaps continue to exist. Further, most States are also yet to amend the subject laws. The States have been urged to expedite this process. The State Governments have also been addressed to implement the Act in letter and spirit.

Welfare of sex workers

1467. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of NGOs working for welfare of sex workers, State-wise;

(b) the total financial assistance given to these NGOs during the last three years, NGO-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether Government have started any welfare schemes for the sex workers recently;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what welfare measures have been taken to educate the children of sex workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Women & Child Development runs shelter homes for women in difficult circumstances including sex workers such as Swadhar Shelter Homes and Short Stay Homes. Also, three Pilot Projects are being implemented to combat trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation. The details of the total financial assistance given to these NGOs during the last three years, NGO-wise, year-wise are provided in the Annual Reports (2003-04 to 2005-06) of the Ministry, which have been placed in the Parliament. These Reports are available in the Parliament Library and Ministry's website *http://www.wcd.nic.in* also.

(c) to (e) The Working Groups on "Development of Children" and 'Empowerment of Women' for the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012) have been constituted by the Planning Commission in April 2006, these Working Groups under the chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development and consisting of experts will review the existing approach and programmes for women and children including sex workers and suggest suitable initiatives and programmes for the survival, protection, welfare and development of sex workers and their children. The deliberations of these Working Groups will serve as an input into the Steering Committee Report of the Planning Commission. The recommendations of the Steering Committee would form the basis for the programmes and schemes of the Ministry of Women and Child Development in Eleventh Plan.

Orphanages and other Charitable Homes (Supervision and Control) Act

1468. SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for Orphanages and other Charitable Homes (Supervision and Control) Act, 1960 is pending with Government;